

350.20

Hearing Officers

Hearing officer The hearing officer, or administrative law judge, must be a person who was not directly involved in the initial determination of the action being contested. The officer must have knowledge of the Iowa WIC Program and its regulations.

The duties of a hearing officer include:

- Determining the time and place of the hearing,
 - Administering the oath of affirmation, as required by the State of Iowa,
 - Ensuring that all relevant issues are considered,
 - Regulating the conduct and course of the hearing, consistent with due process, to ensure an orderly hearing,
 - Requesting and receiving all evidence necessary to decide the issues being raised,
 - Making the evidence part of the hearing record,
 - Ordering, where relevant and necessary, an independent assessment or professional evaluation from a source satisfactory to both the appellant and the state, and
 - Rendering a decision which will resolve the dispute.
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Suggested hearing officers State-level hearing officers are appointed by the Department of Inspections and Appeals.

Suggested hearing officers at the agency level are:

- Agency directors
 - Non-agency health professionals, or
 - Department of Human Services hearing officers.
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